**Chinese Exclusion Act**

Chinese exclusion is the policy of prohibiting immigration of Chinese

laborers to the United States, which began in 1882. Many Chinese had

immigrated before that time to California, to work as laborers building the

railroads. By 1867, there were about 50,000 Chinese in California.

In 1868, the United States signed the Burlingame Treaty with China,

which guaranteed the right of Chinese laborers to immigrate, but not to

become citizens. Other people in California began to resent the Chinese

workers. American workers did not want to compete with cheap immigrant

labor; also many people were prejudiced against people of other races.

In 1882, Congress passed the Chinese Exclusion Act, which banned

Chinese immigration for 10 years. When that period expired, Congress

passed other laws to continue to prohibit Chinese immigration. The

immigration law of 1924 excluded all Asian immigration.

In 1943, the acts were repealed when a law was signed setting an annual

immigration quota of 105 and extending citizenship privileges to

Chinese.

--adapted from the Columbia Encyclopedia, "Chinese Exclusion"

**Questions - answer any three of the following questions:**

1. Why did Chinese laborers first come to Californian, and when?

2.The "Burlingame Act" gave Chinese laborers the opportunity to become citizens. TRUE or FALSE.

3. What was the main reason that Congress passed the Chinese Exclusion Act?

4.The Immigration of 1924 was expanded to include which other groups of people:

a) Europeans, except those of British descent;

b) those from Australia, New Zealand and Fiji

c) All Asian nationalities

d) None of the above

5. When were these acts of congress repealed, and what was the initial quota for immigration from China?